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**REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 2155**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No.: 09/693,682  
Filed: October 19, 2000

Inventors:

Gregory L. Slaughter,  
Thomas E. Saulpaugh,  
Eric Pouyoul

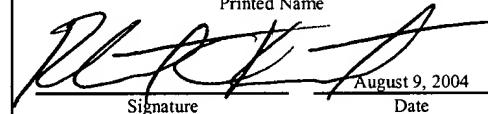
Title: Message Conductors in a  
Distributed Computing  
Environment

§ Examiner: Lazaro, David R.  
§ Group/Art Unit: 2155  
§ Atty. Dkt. No: 5181-70100

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Robert C. Kowert

Printed Name

  
Signature

August 9, 2004  
Date

**RESPONSE TO FINAL ACTION OF  
JUNE 8, 2004**

**RECEIVED**

AUG 16 2004

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Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Technology Center 2100

Dear Sir:

This paper is submitted in response to the Final Action of June 8, 2004, to further highlight why the application is in condition for allowance.

Please amend the application as specified below.